

Building Local Partnerships for Families



The Minnesota Departments of Education, Health, and Human Services, in partnership with the Children’s Cabinet, has applied for and received the Preschool Development Renewal Grant. Minnesota has been awarded \$26.8 million over three years (Dec 2019-Dec 2022). The grant builds off our state vision of focusing on children experiencing racial, geographic, and economic inequities, in order for all children in Minnesota to be born healthy and able to thrive within their families and communities.



Inclusive and Responsive Practices, Programs and Policies

Guiding Principles: Racial Equity • Trauma-Informed • Geographic Responsiveness • Everything is Connected • Whole Family • Agencies Working Together • Belonging

We’re Listening

The Preschool Development Grant (PDG) community-based needs assessment highlighted that families and communities in Minnesota want a universally accessible system that offers specific opportunities to families and communities that builds on local communities’ strengths and targets root causes of inequities to provide:

- 1** A fully functioning system that addresses families’ multiple, intersecting needs: child care; medical care; housing, transportation; food security; cash and other assistance;
- 2** Help accessing culturally/linguistically appropriate services;
- 3** A community-based approach that promotes and supports families thriving.

Local Partnerships—Hub Model

As part of Minnesota’s fulfillment of the Preschool Development Grant, approximately \$2 million per year has been issued to the Minnesota Department of Human Services for contracts with community-based partnerships to create Hub models. These partnerships may already exist or may be built for this opportunity. The state will collaborate and coordinate with Tribal Nations and Urban American Indian organizations; schools; counties; community partners; communities of color, greater Minnesota (rural) and urban communities to accomplish the following goals:

Make it easier for families to get what they need. Develop universal access points for families, coupled with culturally appropriate, relationship-based navigation of programs and systems.

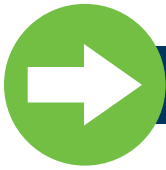


Increase access to services. Partner with state agencies to test and evaluate Help Me Connect coupled with culturally appropriate, relationship-based navigation.



Grow community engagement and support community-developed solutions. A community-based, whole family approach so families have what they need to thrive. This will look and feel different in every community.





Next Steps for Local Partners

We are developing an application process, which is anticipated to be released late spring 2020.

All potential applicants need to begin taking the following key steps to develop a robust application:



Engage partners who are part of your local early childhood and family serving community.

Common types of partners may include local collaboratives or networks, local advisory councils, families, schools, health care, child welfare, public health, and other local community partners and networks.

Consider if partner organization staff are reflective of the community (race, culture, language).



Identify current strengths within your community. Is there a team already in place for planning purposes? What family/child-serving services are available in your community? How does your community support pregnant and parenting families with young children? What other efforts are occurring in your community?



Engage with families. Engage families at every state of development and implementation. Applicants should develop strategies to build and maintain strong partnerships with families furthest from opportunity.



Work together to define what success will look like in your community and think about what your community needs to achieve that success. Identify what you want to accomplish through this work. What would success look like? What are some strategies you want to pursue? How does testing Help Me Connect and other tools to promote access, referral and follow up move you toward success?



Identify current differences in access and outcome data between populations. Use this information to identify the key population(s) of focus in your application. Applicants will be accountable for developing actions that work toward equity in access and outcomes as part of their application. Consider what data you have or what data you need to support your efforts.



Identify capacity and potential training needs. Consider what your community will need in order to implement effective, culturally responsive, trauma-informed and/or enhanced community-based services for pregnant and parenting families. Consider your willingness to enter into a shared learning experience with state agencies and participate in communities of practice to learn what's working in other communities.

Some initial data resources:

[Wilder Research Risk, Reach, and Resilience Report, 2018](#)

[Minnesota Results for Children Dashboard](#)

[Healthy Children, Healthy Nations](#)

[American Community Survey Fact Finder](#)

[Minnesota Compass Neighborhood and Community Profiles](#)

[Minnesota Out-of-Home Care and Permanency Report](#)

[Minnesota Child Maltreatment Report](#)

[The Early Childhood Longitudinal Data System](#)



Logistics of Awards



Award floor

\$150,000
annually

Award ceiling

\$500,000
annually

Length of time

2.5 years

.....
4-10 grantees with priority points for those who serve: low-income, homeless families, and pregnant and parenting families with infants and toddlers.

Request for Information, Letters of Interest, Technical Assistance, and Request for Proposals

A [Request for Information survey](http://surveys.dhs.state.mn.us/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=158267085948) is available to provide feedback on this opportunity (<http://surveys.dhs.state.mn.us/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=158267085948>).

This will provide an opportunity for potential grant applicants to comment on the information above. The comments will drive both the development of the formal Request for Proposals as well as technical assistance webinars, and a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs). Comments will be taken on the website between March 9 and March 30, 2020.

A request for letters of interest (LOI) will be included within the Request for Proposals (RFP) and be due approximately 30 days prior to full responses to the RFP. Each applicant will be eligible for resources and information as well as up to 30 minutes of technical assistance prior to the RFP due date in the following areas:

- Data collection and disparities
- Building community partnerships
- Two generation/whole family approach

